

Mercury Negotiations

Panel 4 : Financing Needs for Biodiversity Convention and Mercury Process

GEF Council Consultation Meeting with Civil Society Organizations

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Chair

Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury

Mercury – a global problem

- 2001: UNEP started work on a global assessment of mercury
- 2003: Governments agreed mercury poses a global problem and called for national, regional and global actions
- 2005: A global mercury partnership programme was established, strengthened by 2007 UNEP Governing Council decision
- 2009: Governments agreed on the need for a global legally binding instrument and established an intergovernmental negotiating committee (GC 25/5)



UNEP GC Decision 25/5

- The UNEP Governing Council Decision 25/5, 2009, on Mercury, agreed to:
 - Elaborate a legally binding instrument on mercury, which could include both binding and voluntary approaches
 - Continue and enhance, as part of the international action on mercury, the existing work
- Negotiations to commence in 2010
- Goal to complete negotiations prior to the 27th regular session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum in 2013

Global instrument to include provisions on:

- Objectives;
- Reduction of supply and enhance capacity for sound storage;
- Reduction of demand;
- Reduction of international trade;
- Reduction of atmospheric emissions;
- Waste and remediation of contaminated sites
- Increasing knowledge;
- Capacity-building and technical and financial assistance;
- Compliance

Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC)

- **GC 25/5: Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee** to be convened and supported by UNEP
- **INC Chair**
- **Bureau** (2 Africa, 2 Asia and the Pacific, 2 Central and Eastern Europe, 2 Latin America and the Caribbean, 2 Western Europe and Others)
- UNEP DTIE Chemicals Branch acting as **secretariat**

Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) meetings

- **INC1** in **Stockholm, Sweden, in June 2010**, considered the range of issues to be included
- **INC2** in **Chiba, Japan, in January 2011**, considered draft elements of the instrument



Third session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC3)

**INC3 - 31 October
to 4 November 2011 at
UNEP Headquarters,
Nairobi, Kenya**



- Attended by more than 500 delegates representing 125 Governments as well as IGOs, NGOs and other participants

Outcomes of INC3

- Revised draft text prepared by INC3 on:
 - Artisanal and small scale gold mining
 - Storage, waste and contaminated sites
 - Information exchange
 - Some final provisions
- Committee agreed to a programme of intersessional work



Source: ENB – Delegates in the evening contact group meeting on emissions and releases

Intersessional work

- Secretariat to incorporate new text from contact groups into draft text for INC4
- New approach to financing and technical and implementation assistance
- New approach for emissions and releases
- Secretariat to prepare information on possible phase-out arrangements for products and processes
- Secretariat to prepare a compilation of reporting obligations and action plans

Expert meeting

- Governments submitted their views on financing and technical and implementation assistance.
- Experts on financial resources and technical and implementation assistance were nominated by Bureau members.
- The expert meeting on financial resources and technical and implementation assistance was held in Hungary from 11 to 13 April 2012.

Finance process

- **Conceptual approach**
What, when, how, who, whom
- **Draft text**
Art. 15 and 16
- **GEF paper on finance & mercury**

Fourth session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC4)

INC4 - 27 June to 2 July 2012 at
at the **Conrad Punta del Este**
Resort - Punta del Este, Uruguay



INC4 Expected progress

- To have reached agreement on most sections of the text
- To have significantly narrowed the options available
- to move forward with the preparation of a revised draft text with limited outstanding issues for consideration at INC5

After INC4

- Intersessional work
- **INC5** will take place from 14 to 19 January 2013 (dates to be confirmed by the Bureau), in Geneva, Switzerland
- The convention will be open for signature at a **diplomatic conference** to be held in Japan in October 2013

Further information

<http://www.unep.org>

Thank you